

has become apparent that we had better do something about it or we could have worse times than this COVID year, every year, 10 or 15 years from now. The dramatic changes that will discombobulate our society and risk our health and our economy, just as COVID did, will happen if we don't do anything. So fighting climate change and making sure America leads the world in emerging industries that deal with climate should be the work of both Democrats and Republicans.

This Congress has proven that we can legislate in a bipartisan way, just most recently on the anti-Asian hate crimes bill and a bipartisan water infrastructure bill. I believe we will continue that trend by taking up and passing a bipartisan competition bill this work period.

So as we head to the White House today, I hope our other leaders are thinking about how we can come together to solve our Nation's problems in a bold and lasting way. One hundred percent of Democrats' focus—and I think I can speak for Speaker PELOSI as well as myself and President Biden—is on delivering help to the American people.

ENDLESS FRONTIER ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, now, speaking of bipartisan legislation, today the Commerce Committee will begin marking up the Endless Frontier Act, one of the most significant investments in American innovation in generations. The bill will be at the core of comprehensive legislation to address American competitiveness and security in the 21st century.

Once again, for the information of the Senate, it is my intention for the Senate to consider and finish competitive legislation before the end of the month. There have been productive bipartisan talks over the last week to improve the Endless Frontier Act.

This is an issue I have worked on with my friend the Republican Senator from Indiana for the past few years. He has been a great help, a great partner, and I appreciate his work. And, of course, Senator CANTWELL, our chairman of the Commerce Committee, and Senator WICKER, our ranking member, have come together. And everyone had to give a bit here, there, and everywhere, but I think we have a strong bill that should get strong bipartisan support.

The simple truth is very simple. The Endless Frontier Act is legislation our country desperately needs. For decades after the Second World War, our country led the world in science and technology, from healthcare to computers, from telecommunications to manufacturing, to defense. Our workforce brought these innovations to the global economy, and it produced more than half a century of prosperity.

People in the last 50 years, from 1950 to 2000, thought the future was going to be better even than the present, and it

created the usual American optimism. But things have changed, and one of the things that has changed is years of Federal investment in sciences, and they have exposed long-term weak spots—serious weak spots—in our economic competitiveness. This could hurt us dramatically in the next 50 years.

The longer we put off investing in sciences, the likelier it is that other countries, like China but others too, will overtake America as the global leader in innovation, and that will have profound consequences for our economy, our national security, even the future of human liberty, and it will have a lot to do with whether Americans believe that the future economically will be better for them than the present, which is part of the American hallmark and trademark, our sunny optimism, which we must restore. There has been a sourness in the land lately. It is our mission to restore it.

So to take the initiative back, the Endless Frontier Act provides \$100 billion for basic research through the National Science Foundation, focusing on the critical technologies of tomorrow, where we have to stay the leader: AI, advanced manufacturing, renewable energy, quantum computing, cyber security, 5G, battery storage, and so much more.

This bill will nurture tech labs and tech hubs across the country in places where they are not now. We have to spread the wealth. The clock is ticking on the need to make these critical investments.

The Chinese Communist Party has gone to extraordinary lengths to steal a generation of American intellectual property and cheat their way to innovating and economic growth. We do not, we definitely do not—Democrats, Republicans, liberals, conservatives do not want a future where the Chinese Communist Party dictates the global order and how the world uses 5G, artificial intelligence, quantum computing.

That is why the Endless Frontier Act is resoundingly bipartisan. We already have six cosponsors from each side—six Democrats, six Republicans—because these issues affect the future of our entire country. I greatly look forward to the good work that Chair CANTWELL and the Commerce Committee will do to advance the bill this week.

REPUBLICAN PARTY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on a final topic, I am not in the habit of commenting on the House Republican minority, but today they have reached a new and very dangerous low point. Earlier this morning, the House GOP ousted LIZ CHENEY from the party's leadership. Her crime? Telling the truth—telling the truth that Joe Biden is the legitimate President of the United States and Donald Trump is lying when he says the election is stolen.

Congresswoman CHENEY spoke truth to power, and for that she has been

fired. Make no mistake, the Congresswoman and I disagree on so many policy issues, but we both agree that truth matters. And she, like so many characters in history—I am just thinking now of Sir Thomas More—had the courage to tell the truth and paid a big price for it.

So this is sad—a very dark moment for the Republican Party. Republicans are seeking to perpetuate and act upon the big lie that the election was stolen, simply to placate the most dishonest President in American history. This President lies at will. He doesn't care of the consequences for the future of grand, great, and wonderful democracy. He only cares about himself and feeding his ego, and truth has nothing to do with that. It mattered—what happened matters a great deal, and what the former President is trying to do hurts our country dramatically. The former President's lies, right now, are poisoning our democracy, eroding our faith in government, and exciting a plague—often nasty, sometimes racist—of voter suppression laws.

I had thought that January 6 revealed the devastating consequences of the big lie. I thought that the invasion of our Capitol by an armed mob—a mob that sought to delay the peaceful transfer of power; a mob that I was within 15, 20 feet of at one moment—would demonstrate to all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, both ends of the Capitol, the awful price of Donald Trump's lies. But after a brief and all-too-short period of introspection, it appears that the big lie is no longer on the retreat among Republicans but, instead, is spreading like a cancer.

Far be it for me to tell House Republicans who should lead them, but it is truly a dangerous—dangerous—sign of our times that the price of admission in today's Republican Party is silence in the face of provable lies.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

FOR THE PEOPLE ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, a one-party takeover of our political system—that is what Senate Democrats brought to the Rules Committee just yesterday, their side's top priority for multiple years now.